

First Unitarian of NJ

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

March 14th, 2021

Sunday, 5 pm

Meeting held via Zoom

Board Members in Attendance:

Chris Baglieri- President

Mike Sutterlin- Vice President

Sarah Muller-Robbins- Secretary

Kim Mitchell- Trustee

Guenevere Zucker- Trustee

Denise Soppas- Trustee

Minister Present: Rev Ann Marie Alderman

Board Members Absent: Cass Cochrane- Trustee

Chalice Lighting: Chris

Reading of Board Covenant: All

Meeting Agenda: Approved by all

Consent Agenda: Minister's Report, President's Report, 8th Principle Report, February 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve: Mike, Seconded: Sarah. Approved by all

Review of Action Items from February Board Meeting

- Mike to work with Charlie with Share the Plate application form - ongoing
- Mike to send link to electronic form to Ann Marie - ongoing
- Cass to reach out to Board for ideas in putting together pledge drive pamphlet - done
- Denise to share link to 8th Principle resolution draft. Board members to provide feedback by March 1st - done
- Chris to speak to Nominating Committee regarding seeking Board members - ongoing
- Kim to reach out to Chris regarding Membership Committee - ongoing
- Chris to reach out to members of Marketing Committee to reactivate - ongoing
- Guen to reach out to other UU congregations to learn how they welcome new members via Zoom - see under Old Business below
- Ann Marie to send updated membership list to Chris before congregational meeting - done

Old Business

- Returning to in-person meetings: need to have a unified message. Most are comfortable only if small numbers and outside. Chris to work on message with info from UUA for newsletter
- Welcoming new members: Guen reached out to UUA, who referred her to a webinar on how to welcome new members. Option to have breakout rooms during coffee hour, moderated by a Board member. In Zoom's new format, can assign breakout rooms. Important that before-service chats end and service starts at 3:30. Next week can start

with one breakout room for worship; one for chatting. Chris to bring conversation to worship team this week.

Budget and Finance

- Finance reports: Reviewed by Ann Marie. Finances on target.
- Pledge campaign- Board members to mention pledge campaign in Board Minute and may add personal note about “why I pledge”. Document with updated script for virtual format available in Google Shared drive. Events to be reported on in order as in Society Pages.
- Service auction- link to form is in Society pages
- Upcoming Share the Plate applications- no upcoming suggestions. Ann Marie- will submit application for UU Service committee for April.

8th Principle Group Report: Denise submitted via email

Denise reported that resolution was forwarded to Board members and a BIPOC Focus group for feedback. The BIPOC Focus group was composed of 7 past and present friends and members. Feedback from the BIPOC Focus group will be shared with leadership at a future date.

New Business

- Slack to be used for communication as we work on Board planning.
- Board planning will include planning for upcoming transitions

Action Items Assigned

- Ann Marie to highlight call for Share the Plate nominations in newsletter; Charlie to be asked forward the Share the Plate application to the board
- Ann Marie to send the stewardship campaign brochure by Breeze
- Chris to write message for newsletter with info from UUA regarding future in-person gatherings
- Chris to speak to Nominating Committee regarding seeking Board members
- Board members reading Board Minute at beginning of service: will use shared google document with updated script. To mention the pledge campaign and, if comfortable, add a personal “why I pledge” message.
- Ann Marie- will submit application for UU Service committee for Share the Plate for April.
- Denise will compose a letter for the congregation about introducing the 8th Principle and forward to Ann Marie for distribution
- Chris will discuss options for welcoming new members virtually with worship committee
- Chris will add topic to Slack regarding planning for the Board

Calendar Items

- Next Board Meeting: April 11th, 2021
 - Chalice Lighting at Board Meeting: Mike
- Board Minute Speakers
 - 3/21 - Kim
 - 3/28 - Chris
 - 4/4 - Denise
 - 4/11 - Guen
 - 4/18 - Cass
 - 4/25 - Sarah
 - 5/2 - Mike
- 5/16 - Cass to present budget

- 5/23 - Annual Meeting

Meeting Adjourned: 6 pm- Chris made motion to adjourn. All approved.

Prepared by: Sarah Muller-Robbins